Teacher Guide: Gran Torino -Stereotyping.

Grade: sixth

* Explain to the students that the Gran Torino movie displays different culture and gender roles.
* Tell students a brief summary about the movie.
* Ask students if they believe if stereotyping is either bad or good. This clip is just for the students to get any ideas into their head if stereotyping is bad or good.
* Tell the students that they are going to see some clips of the movie, and to think about what stereotypes come to their mind after seeing the clips. As the teacher, you can go into details and explain each clip. For example, what gender and cultures roles are being portray.
* The gender and culture roles being portray in the first clip:
  + African Americans are tough
  + White male is pretending to “act black”-the way he talks and the way he is dressed
  + Asian fetish
  + African Americans are abusive towards women
  + Older people are not tough
* For the second clip, make sure to click on the website and to hit the title “taking it easy” right away.
* Some questions that you can ask for second clip:
  + How Clint Eastwood is being treated.
  + How older adults are being portray.
    - Older adults:
      * Can’t take care of themselves or their houses alone.
      * Have trouble seeing.
      * They have trouble reaching for items.
* Other questions that can be asked:
  + Does anyone ever make fun of you because of your race? How do you feel?
  + Does anyone make fun of you because of your culture? How do you feel?
  + Do you think is right for others to make fun of someone’s culture or race?
  + Have you ever said something bad about someone’s culture? Why?
* Explain to the students that although stereotyping is bad it’s necessary for human life because it allows us to simplify our world.
* Then go back again to asking the students if they believe that stereotyping is either bad or good, or if it is both.
* For the conclusion: summarize, if you learn a culture first then you will be able understand it. You can tell your students about Clint Eastwood, the actor in the movie, how he did not know the culture of his neighbors. After spending time with his neighbors and getting to know them, Clint Eastwood was able to learn their culture. Tell your students that he was able to learn that there were a lot of stereotypes that were not true. Therefore, we as human beings need to explore different cultures and get to know them first before making stereotypes.